(d) if so, what is the current level of utilisation of the fleet and how it compares with the desired utilisation levels obtaining in other countries;

(e) what have been the considerations for purchasing the aircraft before having sufficient number of trained pilots and how much revenue loss is being incurred on this count; and

(f) what is being done to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India had ordered four Boeing 747-400 aircraft, out of which three were delivered in 1993 and the last aircraft will join the fleet in June, 1994. Each aircraft costs ground dollar 148 Million.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Aircraft utilisation varies from airline to airline depending on the fleet size, number of destinations served, flight duty time limitations of the flying and cabin crew and other related factors. Therefore, any meaningful comparison of utilisation of B-747—400 aircraft of Air India with other airlines is not possible. At present, Air India's utilisation of B-747—400 aircraft is 8.28 hours per day, which will be stepped up to 11.24 hours per day in 1994-95.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Performance of IA and AI

3066. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of Indian Airlines and Air India during last three years; and

(b) the strategy being adopted by the two airlines to improve their perforance?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Financial Performance of Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three years is as under :—

(Rs. Crores)

Year	Air India (Profit)	Indian Airlines (Loss)
1990-91	81.23	64.59
1991-92	145.89	198.85
1992-93	333.14	195.16

(b) Indian Airlines has taken steps to improve on time performance, improvement of passenger comforts, staff behaviour etc. In addition action has been taken to minimise the losses by :—

1. Monitoring of schedules matching with demand.

2. Stepping up utilisation of existing fleet.

3. Operation on more international sectors.

4. Economy in aircraft fuel consumption.

5. Frequent pre-flight checks to avoid wastages on food uplift/catering items.

Air India has introduced Hub and Spoke operation to connect gateway points with places like Amritsar, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad. Passenger services, particularly, inflight service have been upgraded, new destinations like Johannesburg, Durban, Jakarta and Dar-es-Salam

have been added. New Boeing 747-400 aircraft have been deployed on India-New York Sector.

Arrival of Tourists in the Country

3067. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourist arrivals during the last three years;

(b) the target fixed for the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the efforts being made to upgrade and modernise infrastructural facilities to achieve this target?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The tourist arrivals, including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, during the last three years were as given below:

Year;	Tourist Arrivals
1991	16,77,508
1992	18,67,651
1993	17,64,830

(b) The Eighth Five Year Plan envisages an annual rate of growth of 9 to 10 per cent in tourist arrivals.

(c) The efforts being made to upgrade and modernise the infrastructural facilities for tourism include improvement of investment facilities and incentives and better co-ordination with other Government agencies including the State Governments and the Private Sector.

Earnings of Government from Private Airliners

3068. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the Government earnings from each private airliner during the last twelve months?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Financial condition of Indian Airlines

3069. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether repealing of the Air Corporation Act, 1953 has, in any way, paved the way for improving the financial condition of Indian Airlines;

(b) whether Government have any plans to restructure the IA and AI; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to enable the IA and AI to work in unison and mount additinoal capacity?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Repeal of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 is among the various steps in improving the performance of Indian Airlines.

(b) As a first step towards restructuring, a common Board of Director has been appointed for the two airlines.

(c) Indian Airlines and Air India have already introduced joint services between Calicut to points in Gulf region like Muscat, Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Hub and Spoke operations have commenced from Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Amritsar from February, 1994. Under this scheme, Indian Airlines operates fligh's from the above three points to Delhi/Bombay from where passengers can get convenient connections for journeys on international sectors, through Air India flights.

Promotion of tourism in Rajasthan

3070. SHRI RAJENDRA PRASAD MODY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that six million tourists visit Singapore